Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I understand from the Hon'ble Member that there is one stationed at Kunnamkulam. The fact is not so.

President.—Then how is it that you disagree on this question of facts?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There is one at Kunnamkulam.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I shall accept what the Hon'ble Member says, but there is no one at Kunnamkulam now.

Ayurvedic Dispensaries managed by Government.

461. Mr. Lonappan Chakkola.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

i. How many of the Ayurvedic Dispensaries referred to in Appendix I subjoined to answer to question No. 15 of the budget session of 1101 are managed by the Government and how many aided by it;

ii. How many of the Vaidyans in charge of the dispensaries referred to in the Appendix aforesaid were appointed by the Government;

iii. The names of the officers of the Government who passed the order of the appointments of the Vaidyans referred to above;

iv. Whether in the case of Vaidyans not appointed by the Government the Government's approval of the appointments has been obtained;

v. Whether before appointing the Vaidyans referred to in (i) applications had been called for in any case; if so, in the case of which Dispensary or Dispensaries?

Mr. I. Raman Menon— i. The Tattamangalam Ayurvedic Dispensary referred to in the Appendix having been abolished in the current year, there are now only 13 Dispensaries in existence. They are all managed by Panchayats and aided by the Government.

ii. The Vaidyans are not appointed by the Government.

iii & iv. No answer is necessary in view of the reply to part ii.

v. No. In the case of all aided Vaidyasalas the Vaidyans apply to the Panchayats who forward the application to the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats, or the Head of the Department in the manner prescribed by the rules.

Outstandings due to the Forest Department.

462. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the outstanding due to the Forest Department from private persons at the end of Dhanu 1101?

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Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Rs. 1,51,825—12—0.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—I rise to a point of order, Sir, regarding question 462 (b). The names of persons from whom the outstandings are due and the amount due from each should not be published. It is a custom among merchants not to publish their assets and liabilities. They live upon public credit. I do not know whether the mercantile community will publish the names of those who have dealings with them.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—That is a complaint I had also to make. I do not think the merchants will publish the names of those who have dealings with them.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—The President is empowered to disallow the question according to his discretion under Rule 11. As the interest of the mercantile community suffers, this question should not have been answered.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—When the questions were sent to me, I supplied the information. I thought then that I would request Government to publish this when this question came up in the House. The list was supplied for the information of the House.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Shall I begin my supplementary question, Sir? What is the point of order, and on what is it based?

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—Under Rule 11 of the Legislative Council Rules, the question could not be answered, as it affects the interests of the mercantile community.

President.—My view is that it will affect the credit of the persons mentioned. It should not have been published for the information of the House. If you have given it, you are not to be blamed. At least, the publication should have been withheld.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I thought I would as well mention it here. If I had not supplied the information to the Government, the members would have thought that I was unwilling to supply the information. They would have misunderstood me. That was my reason in furnishing the information.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Sir, it would have been better if he had sent a note to this effect.

President.—The Government would not have misunderstood, if you had informed beforehand that for such and such a reason the information could not be supplied.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I don't want to ask questions about persons. There are things here which require explanation. In

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the years 1100 and 1101, timber is seen advanced on credit to merchants, and I want to know why the cost of this timber was not collected in time and allowed to accumulate. Why should timber be advanced again to such defaulters?

President.—Did the Member in charge make further advances to such persons?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Yes. Advances are seen made by the Member in charge to insolvents. Perhaps, he may not be aware that he is an insolvent.

President.—How can we hammer anything out of him, if he refuses to pay the amount? We have got monthly statements, and yearly statements, etc., and it would not be worth while to go to a court of law to recover the amount now. Of course, no further advances will be given without realising the amount due. Perhaps, the person will be remitting the dues, portion by portion, at a time. That is the way with all merchants. Perhaps, these might have been a slump in the trade. Let us give some more time, and let us watch and see.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I do not think this is the experience with all the merchants.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—I am a merchant, and so far as I am concerned, I will take even 4 annas in the rupee at a time and close the matter. (*Laughter*).

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—In Appendix VI, in the statement showing dues to the Forest Department from private persons at the end of Dhanu 1100, it is seen that one Mr. P. Sankara Menon has transacted business with the department on behalf of several people. I do not understand what it is. It is very well to see that mercantile secrets are not revealed. I do not understand what is meant by P. Sankara Menon for Joseph and Lonan. With regard to that, I have certain questions to be put. Is his name shown as sureties for all these persons, and are these persons carrying on business now?

President.—Anyhow, action is being taken to recover the amount.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Was not this Sankara Menon a Ranger or somebody in the employ of the Forest Department who was in charge of the Ernakulam Depot?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—He was a Forester.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—If the Government is not aware, I wish to inform that the said Mangalam Lona has been declared an insolvent, and it has been published to this effect in the Cochin Government Gazette, Page 366 of 1098.

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Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—We are in the hope of recovering the amount from him.

President.—Has he any security. If we go to court, we cannot get the amount. Without that, let us see, if we can get the whole amount by amicable means.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—He has been declared an insolvent, and he has no property worth the name. Perhaps, if anybody pays for him, of course, the amount can be recovered.

President.—I think we shall stop with questions and answers now.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I call the attention of the House to Appendix VI.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—That has been disallowed by the President once under Rule 11.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The question has not been disallowed by the President.

463. Mr. C. A. Ouseph. — Will the Government be pleased to state:—

Whether the Forest Department charge any interest on outstandings; if so, at what rate?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Interest is charged on amounts outstanding according to the conditions laid down in the agreements entered into with the parties, and the rates vary from the bank rate to 12 per cent.

A statement of officers in the various grades, their caste and nationality.

464. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state as it stood on 30th Medam 1100.—

(a) The total number of officers of the superior grade, of the inferior grade and the menial grade in the State service in each of the State Departments and the total amount of pay drawn by each of the above three sub-divisions; (for the purpose of this question superior grade should include all those who draw Rs. 100 and above, inferior grade below Rs. 100 and above Rs. 12, and the rest may be treated as the menial grade);

(b) The total number of each sub-caste of each of the above 3 sub-divisions and the total amount of pay drawn by each sub-caste and the total amount of Land Revenue of the properties included in the landed property statement of officers of each sub-caste;

(c) The total number of Cochinites of each of the above 3 sub-divisions;

(d) The total number of non-Cochinites and the amount of pay that they draw, and the total number of non-Cochinites entertained each year during the last 10 years;

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